

III. REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending in this action. Applicants do not acquiesce in the correctness of the rejections and reserve the right to present specific arguments regarding any rejected claims not specifically addressed. Further, Applicants reserve the right to pursue the full scope of the subject matter of the original claims in a subsequent patent application that claims priority to the instant application. Reconsideration in view of the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

By this Amendment, Figure 3 has been corrected in compliance with 37 CFR § 1.112 (d). The drawing failed to show the ‘yes’ and ‘no’ output described in the specification. The specification provides support for placement of the ‘yes’ and ‘no’ output as indicated on the corrected drawing sheet.

In the Office Action, claims 1-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e) as allegedly being anticipated by O’Flaherty et al. (US 6,275,824), hereinafter “O’Flaherty”.

Claims 1, 12 and 17 have been amended to require that each system (explicit, implicit and field level clearance) consists of an administrator configuration. Support for these amendments is found in the specification on page 4, lines 11-14. In O’Flaherty the user configures privacy rules for explicit clearance (col. 4, lines 55-60). The language in the amended claims does not allow user configuration. Therefore, Applicants submit the anticipation rejection is no longer applicable and should be removed.

Applicants respectfully submit that the application is in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner believe that anything further is necessary to place the application in better

condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

/Carl F. Ruoff/

Carl F. Ruoff
Reg. No.: 34,241

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Hoffman Warnick LLC
75 State Street, 14th Floor
Albany, New York 12207
Telephone (518) 449-0044
Facsimile (518) 449-0047